

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with John Genova on April 16th 2013.

The application has been amended as follows:

Please amend claim 6 as follows:

6. The mounting apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the thickness of the circumferentially spaced-apart fingers of the adaptor taper in a ~~[[radial]]~~longitudinal direction towards the forward smaller end of the adaptor.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
- The prior art, taken alone or in combination, does not disclose nor make obvious a mounting apparatus for mounting an expandable endless cord comprising, *inter alia*: a tapered adaptor having a forward smaller end, a rear larger end, a plurality of circumferentially spaced-apart fingers extending from the rear larger end towards the forward smaller end and a mounting plug extending rearwardly from the rear larger end for mounting the adaptor onto a structure; an expander device having a plurality of circumferentially spaced-apart arms insertable between the fingers, the fingers having a

thickness which tapers continuously radially inward from an outer circumference of the expander, the expander movable relative to the adaptor to propel the cord over the adaptor and completely onto the end of the structure. The closest prior art of record is Hasada (US 5,632,581). However the flange (3) of Hasada is incapable of propelling an endless cord completely over the head (13) so that it is propelled completely onto another structure. Furthermore, the head lacks a plug as claimed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas McEvoy whose telephone number is (571) 270-5034. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 9:00 am – 6:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, ***please contact the examiner's supervisor, Tom Hughes at 571-272-4357.*** The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

If there are any inquiries that are not being addressed by first contacting the Examiner or the Supervisor, you may send an email inquiry to

TC3700_Workgroup_D_Inquiries@uspto.gov.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Thomas McEvoy/

Examiner, Art Unit 3731